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Diana T Fritz 03/15/2007 04:11:34 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

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Text:

UNCLASSIFIED

SIPDIS
TELEGRAM

January 07, 2004

To: No Action Addressee
Action: Unknown
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 96 - UNKNOWN)
TAGS: OIIP, KMDR
Captions: None
Subject: MEDIA REACTION: WEST BANK, IRAQ
Ref: None

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 00096

SIPDIS
CXABU:
ACTION: PAO
INFO: ECON POL AMB DCM
Laser1:
ACTION: PAO

DISSEMINATION: PAO
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: PAO:HOLSIN-WINDECKER
DRAFTED: PAO:AALKHATIB
Cleared: NONE

VZCZCAD1348
OO RUEHC RUENAAA RUEKJCS RUEHZM RUEHLO RUEHFR
RHRMDAB RUCJACC RUCQSOC
DE RUEHAD #0096/01 0071241
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 071241Z JAN 04
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2950
RUENAAA/SECNAV WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEHZM/GCC COLLECTIVE
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0758
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0790
RHRMDAB/COMUSNAVCENT
RUCJACC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA//
RUCQSOC/USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL//PA//

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 ABU DHABI 000096

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ARP; NEA/PPD; NEA/RA; INR/R/MR; PA;
INR/NESA; INR/B; IIP/G/NEA-SA
WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESS OFFICE; NSC
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA
USCINCCENT FOR POLAD
LONDON FOR GOLDRICH; PARIS FOR O'FRIEL
LONDON ALSO FOR MOC

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: OIIP KMDR TC
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: WEST BANK, IRAQ

¶1. SUMMARY: THE SITUATION IN THE WEST BANK AND IRAQ DOMINATED COVERAGE IN UAE PRINT AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA. AN EDITORIAL IN "AL-

KHALEEJ" COMMENTED ON THE ARAB ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE SITUATION IN IRAQ. COLUMNIST DR. SHAMLAN AL EIASSA OUTLINED IN "AL ITTIHAD" PROBLEMS THAT WILL FACE THE GCC COUNTRIES IN PROMOTING EDUCATIONAL REFORM AND DEVELOPMENT. ANOTHER EDITORIAL IN "AL BAYAN" NOTED THAT ARABS COULD DO A LOT TO SERVE THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE. END SUMMARY.

¶2. NOTING THE ELECTIONS TAKING PLACE AT THE UAE PRESS SYNDICATE, ABU DHABI-BASED SEMI-GOVERNMENT "AL ITTIHAD" EDITORIALIZED 01/7:

". LOCAL AND ARAB MEDIA AND OFFICIALS ARE COVERING THE ELECTIONS WIDELY. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE FIRST STEPS OF THESE ELECTIONS, THAT STARTED IN THE YEAR 2000 AND THEN CONTINUED WITH THE ELECTIONS OF NOVEMBER, 2001, ARE CHARACTERIZED BY BEING TRANSPARENT AND CLEAR, AWAY FROM ALL THE SECRET DEALS, UNEXPECTED RESULTS, AND UNPLEASANT SURPRISES. THIS IS NOT NEW OR STRANGE FOR THE UAE COMMUNITY. WE HOPE THAT THE ELECTED COMMITTEE WILL GO ON WORKING TOWARDS ACHIEVING WHAT THEY ARE PROMOTING AND THAT THESE PROPOSALS ARE NOT ONLY FOR CAMPAIGN PURPOSES."

¶2. COMMENTING ON THE U.S.'S ALLEGED PLAN TO DIVIDE IRAQ AND THE ARAB ATTITUDE TOWARDS THAT PLAN, SHARJAH-BASED PAN-ARAB DAILY "AL-KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED 01/7:

". THERE IS A LOT OF ARAB TALK THAT DIVIDING IRAQ IS A RED LINE AND THAT MANIPULATING IRAQI UNITY WON'T BE ALLOWED, BUT AS USUAL THIS IS 'ARAB TALK,' AND IN THIS CASE IT IS ONLY TALK WITH NO ACTION AS SIMILAR TO PREVIOUS SITUATIONS. THE ARAB SILENCE TOWARDS THE WAR OF EXTINCTION AGAINST THE PALESTINIANS IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THAT. IT SEEMS THAT THE ARAB ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE OCCUPATION OF IRAQ WON'T BE DIFFERENT FROM THAT REGARDING THE OCCUPATION OF PALESTINE 55 YEARS AGO."

¶3. NOTING THAT ARABS COULD DO A LOT TO SERVE THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE, DUBAI-BASED BUSINESS-ORIENTED "AL BAYAN" EDITORIALIZED 01/6:

". WE COULD IMPOSE INTERNATIONAL ISOLATION ON ISRAEL. WE SHOULD SUPPORT THE ARAB LEAGUE'S POSITIVE STEP, WHICH IS CONCERNED WITH PREPARING A FILE THAT WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE COURT IN THE HAGUE TO MAKE A DECISION REGARDING THE FENCE BEING BUILT BY SHARON. THERE IS NOTHING FOR ARABS TO DO NOW EXCEPT TO START THEIR LEGAL POLITICAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE ZIONIST ENTITY ON AN INTERNATIONAL LEVEL. THERE SHOULD ALSO BE ARAB COORDINATION. IT IS ABOUT TIME FOR US TO RESTORE OUR POLITICAL STATUS."

¶4. COMMENTING ON SOME ZIONISTS' SUGGESTIONS TO DEPORT PALESTINIANS TO A NEW PALESTINIAN COUNTRY, "AL-KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED 01/6:

"THE NEWEST DEVILISH THOUGHTS COMING OUT FROM THE ZIONIST ENTITY ARE THOSE SUGGESTIONS BY SOME LIKOUDIANS TO DEPORT THE PALESTINIANS TO A NEW PALESTINIAN COUNTRY TO BE CREATED BETWEEN THE JORDAN RIVER AND SYRIA. THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SUGGESTED 'DEPORTING MASSACRE' IS TO CREATE THE "COUNTRY" BETWEEN THE JORDAN RIVER AND SYRIA, WHICH WILL AFFECT THE REGION GEOGRAPHICALLY. THE MOST DANGEROUS THING THAT IS THREATENING THE REGION IS THE ARAB ABSENCE, AS IF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN PALESTINE AND IRAQ IS NOT THEIR CONCERN."

¶5. UNDER THE HEADLINE "PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING EDUCATION," COLUMNIST DR. SHAMLAN YOUSEF AL EIASSA WROTE IN "AL ITTIHAD" ON 01/4:

"THE TWENTY FOURTH GCC SUMMIT CONDUCTED IN KUWAIT BETWEEN 21-22 DECEMBER, 2003, EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF CHANGING THE EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM AND FIGHTING TERRORISM, BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT THE GULF LEADERS DID NOT ANNOUNCE WHAT SHOULD BE CHANGED IN THE CURRICULUM. WHAT IS REALLY REGRETTABLE IS THAT THE LEADERS OF THE GCC AND THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION IN THE GULF COUNTRIES DID NOT LOOK AT THE UN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT OF THE YEAR 2002 THAT SPECIFIES THAT THE ARAB WORLD SUFFERS THREE MAJOR DYSFUNCTIONS. FIRST OF ALL, NO FREEDOM, SECOND, NO KNOWLEDGE, AND THIRD A NEED TO MAKE WOMEN'S SITUATION BETTER."

¶6. COMMENTING ON THE U.S.'S NEGATIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS IRAN AND

LIBYA'S DECISIONS TO GIVE UP THEIR PROGRAMS OF WMD, "AL-KHALEEJ"
EDITORIALIZED 01/4:

". IT IS OBVIOUS THAT WHAT THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION CARES ABOUT IS RIDDING THE ARAB AND ISLAMIC COUNTRIES OF ALL MEANS OF POWER AND DEMOLISHING ANY ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH STRATEGIC MILITARY BALANCE WITH WHAT ISRAEL POSSESSES. BUT DOES THIS MEAN SURRENDERING TO THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION AND ACCEPTING DISMANTLING ALL WEAPONS AND POWER MEANS THAT ARABS POSSESS? IT IS VERY OBVIOUS, THAT THERE IS AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ARABS DEFEAT WITHOUT A WAR. WILL THEY ACCEPT? ARABS, ALL ARABS, ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE A STAND THAT EXCEEDS TALKING, AT LEAST TO OBLIGATE ISRAEL TO GET RID OF WHAT IT POSSESSES OF WMD."

WAHBA